

Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.

Hi Vicki & Jim,

Received the photo with your letter and were very pleased to get them - that's a great picture! you look in fine shape to me - in spite of timing legs, as you said - I truly can't quite imagine you running 26 miles - it seems such an exhausting ordeal. Did you only pause momentarily for something to drink? This has to be so in order for you to finish in good time, I know. Susan hasn't worked up to marathon running yet, evidently but it was nice of her to join you! Does she work with you at your office? We're having another little

taste of winter - Not bad here  
 but my boss couldn't make it  
 out from east pontland this  
 morning so I'm working all day.  
 We had a little snow - only stuck  
 on the grass out our way but  
 the roads were icy last nite.

Oh, I will not be postmaster  
 at our establishment after all -  
 I received a letter this week  
 saying I was qualified but  
 not selected - How about that?  
 We don't know who it will be  
 yet but perhaps the carrier on it  
 I will - He was called for an  
 interview anyway - I really don't  
 care - and in several ways am  
 relieved - Too much responsibility  
 and long hours in sight for the  
 next 2 or 3 years - And the fact  
 of my age indicating approaching  
 retirement may have been a factor  
 too - after all if it takes nearly  
 a year to select a new p.m.  
 they won't want to do it often -  
 Ha.

We had a nice day last Sunday celebrating Francies Birthday - early - since she was leaving for 3 weeks in Hsient Hot Springs on Wed. Her brother & family are already there and she will drive back with them in March - all the available family were at our house except Craig & Jean - (and Lori didn't come either) Jim & Louise's Harrel & Marilyn & little Israel came too - He's a darling little Boy but so tiny for such a name -

Jerry is staying with us for awhile at least so he was home for Sunday too - He's looking for work out this way having quit his warehouse job some time back as too boring and dead ended - we rather wish he had found something else first but that's hard to do when you're working - especially if you don't know

what you're looking for - I wish so that he could have some direction in life - some motivation. And some one person he cared about who could supply the missing elements -

How did the dinner party go? With such good help as Jim I'm sure it went well - and the lunch with the congressional wives? I imagine you enjoyed that and the discussion of endowments to the arts - it's rather nice for you two to have Jim's sister & family near by, isn't it - altho you have many friends there too.

Did I tell you we are planning to keep Kevin & Jeff the first week in March while Ken & Debby go to Las Vegas? He's combining business with pleasure and taking her along - I'm sure she'll enjoy getting away - and I hope we are up to the little guys for a whole week! Ha - out of space - thanks again for the picture and I guess you're in the Bahamas right now! Love,  
mom + dad.